

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /063 W

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FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4218

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EIND, TW

SUBJECT: AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE CRITICIZES STATE
DEPARTMENT FOR ANTI-ROC BIAS

1. SUMMARY: OFFICERS AND GOVERNORS OF AMERICAN CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE IN THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA HELD PRESS CONFERENCE
JULY 9. STATE DEPARTMENT WAS CRITICIZED FOR NOT GIVING
PRESIDENT FAIR APPRAISAL OF ISSUES INVOLVED IN NORMALIZA-
TION, FOR ADVOCATING QUOTE JAPANESE SOLUTION UNQUOTE, AND
FOR PUSHING PRESIDENT INTO HASTY NEGOTIATIONS WITH PRC.
END SUMMARY.

2. MARINUS VAN GESSEL, PRESIDENT OF AMERICAN CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE IN THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA, HEADED GROUP OF NINE
OFFICERS AND GOVERNORS WHICH MET WITH PRESS JULY 9. PRESS
WAS GIVEN LENGTHY DOCUMENT ENTITLED QUOTE STATE DEPARTMENT
NOT GIVING PRESIDENT CARTER FAIR APPRAISAL ON US-CHINA
POLICY UNQUOTE, WHICH WAS DRAFTED BY VAN GESSEL AND APPROVED
BY GOVERNORS JULY 6. MAJOR POINTS MADE IN DOCUMENT
ARE AS FOLLOWS:

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A. CHAMBER SERIOUSLY QUESTIONS WHETHER U.S. STATE
DEPARTMENT IS GIVING PRESIDENT CARTER A FAIR APPRAISAL
ON THE CHINA ISSUE. IT APPEARS THAT THE ADMINISTRATION'S
CHINA POLICY HAS ALREADY BEEN DECIDED BEHIND CLOSED
DOORS.

B. FROM HIS JUNE 30 NEWS CONFERENCE, IT APPEARS
PRESIDENT FAVORS QUOTE JAPANESE SOLUTION UNQUOTE TO TAIWAN

PROBLEM. IF HE HAD BEEN FULLY APPRAISED (SIC) OF BOTH SIDES OF ISSUE HE WOULD NOT HAVE LINKED U.S. POSITION TO SUCH A SOLUTION, PARTICULARLY SINCE IT SEEMS TO BE PLAYING DIRECTLY INTO HANDS OF PEIPING.

C. CHAMBER SENT LETTERS TO PRESIDENT ON APRIL 12 AND JUNE 2, 1977 ASKING FOR AN OPEN DEBATE ON THE TAIWAN ISSUE. THUS FAR NO REPLIES HAVE BEEN RECEIVED. THE LETTERS STRESSED THE ECONOMIC AND MORAL RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN THE U.S. AND TAIWAN AND URGED THE PRESIDENT NOT TO BE PUSHED INTO HASTY NEGOTIATIONS BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT.

D. CHAMBER HAS NO OBJECTION TO IMPROVING RELATIONS WITH PRC IF ADVANTAGEOUS TO U.S. AND NOT AT THE EXPENSE OF TAIWAN. ADEQUATE PROTECTION OF U.S. INTERESTS CAN BE OBTAINED BY EFFECTIVE NEGOTIATING ON THE PART OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT.

E. SINCE THE SECRETARY'S JUNE 29 SPEECH TO THE ASIA SOCIETY MADE NO MENTION OF TAIWAN, THE CHAMBER CAN ONLY DEDUCE THAT THIS IS REPRESENTATIVE OF HOW THE ISSUE IS BEING PRESENTED TO PRESIDENT CARTER. IN SHORT, IT CAN BE PRESUMED THAT THE STATE DEPARTMENT GIVES AMPLE COVERAGE TO PEIPING AND SCANT COVERAGE TO TAIWAN. ALSO, SINCE AMBASSADOR HUANG MEETS WITH THE PRESIDENT AND THE SECRETARY AND AMBASSADOR SHEN IS NOT GIVEN THE SAME OPPORTUNITY, ONE CAN ONLY SURMISE THAT THE STATE DEPARTMENT IS TAKING SIDES AND IS TRYING TO INSULATE THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PRESIDENT.

F. CHAMBER PREDICTS THAT DURING HIS AUGUST VISIT TO PEIPING SECRETARY WILL BE GIVEN QUOTE SLEEVES OUT OF THE RED VEST UNQUOTE AND OBTAIN AN ASSURANCE THAT PEIPING WILL NOT USE FORCE AGAINST TAIWAN. THIS ASSURANCE WILL TEMPT SECRETARY TO RECOMMEND TO PRESIDENT THAT U.S. ABROGATE MUTUAL DEFENSE TREATY AND PUT THE STATE DEPARTMENT'S (OR PEIPING'S) QUOTE JAPANESE FORMULA UNQUOTE INTO EFFECT.

G. BEFORE THE STATE DEPARTMENT IS ALLOWED TO FINALIZE NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS WITH THE PRC IT SHOULD BE MADE TO SPELL OUT TO CONGRESS AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WHAT BENEFITS THERE ARE TO THE U.S. AND WHAT WE HAVE TO GIVE UP TO OBTAIN THEM.

3. CHAMBER ALSO GAVE TO PRESS COPIES OF ITS APRIL 12 AND JUNE 2, 1977 LETTERS TO THE PRESIDENT, COPIES OF LETTERS TO VAN GESSEL OF MARCH 24, 1977 FROM LEVIN AND MARCH 4, 1977 FROM GLEYSTEN, AND COPY OF CHAMBER POSITION PAPER OF AUGUST 25, 1976 ENTITLED QUOTE US-ROC ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIP - A BUSINESSMAN'S VIEW UNQUOTE. PACKAGE IS BEING POUCHED TO EA/ROC.

4. COMMENT: PRESS CONFERENCE HAS RECEIVED MODERATE
COVERAGE IN LOCAL PRESS, BEING OVERSHADOWED BY MIG-19
PILOT DEFECTION AND VISIT OF PRESIDENT YEN TO SAUDI
ARABIA. EMBASSY WAS INVITED BY CHAMBER TO SEND OBSERVER
TO PRESS CONFERENCE BUT DECLINED INVITATION.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS INTERRUPTION, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 11-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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